

## General Assembly

Committee Bill No. 6424

January Session, 2001

LCO No. 4821

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by: (GAE)

## AN ACT REQUIRING NOTIFICATION OF VOTING OR VOTING REGISTRATION TO CONSERVATORS OF RESIDENTS OF CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (a) The administrator of an institution, as defined 2 in subsection (a) of section 9-159q of the general statutes, a residential 3 facility for the mentally retarded licensed pursuant to section 17a-227, 4 or a community residence, as defined in section 19a-507a of the general 5 statutes, shall use his or her best efforts to provide written notice to 6 any conservator or guardian appointed to manage the affairs of a resident of such institution, facility or residence pursuant to sections 8 45a-644 to 45a-663, inclusive, or sections 45a-668 to 45a-684, inclusive, 9 of the general statutes, at least seven days prior to the date any voter 10 registration or voting opportunity is presented to the resident with 11 respect to a primary, referendum or election. Such voter registration or 12 voting opportunity includes, but is not limited to, the solicitation or 13 completion of: (1) An application for admission as an elector; (2) an 14 absentee ballot application; or (3) an absentee ballot, regardless of 15 whether supervised absentee ballot voting will take place at such

institution. The administrator of such institution, facility or residence shall also use his or her best efforts to provide written notice to any such conservator or guardian at least seven days prior to the date when the resident may be brought to a polling place to vote in person.

- (b) Any such notice shall indicate that the resident is entitled to vote or register to vote unless the resident is determined incompetent to do so by a probate court, or unless the registrars of voters or their designees jointly conclude at a supervised voting session that the resident declines to vote the ballot or they are unable to determine how the resident desires to vote the ballot, as provided in subsection (g) of section 9-159q of the general statutes. The notice shall also specify that a resident who requires assistance to vote in accordance with section 9-264 of the general statutes, by reason of blindness, disability or inability to read or write may receive assistance from a person of the resident's choosing.
- (c) The administrator of any such institution, facility or residence may also provide such notice to a person with a power of attorney for a resident of the institution, facility or residence.
- Sec. 2. (NEW) Any probate court proceeding to determine an individual's competency to vote in a primary, referendum or election shall be conducted not later than fifteen days after the guardian or conservator files a petition and shall be privileged with respect to assignment for trial.

GAE Joint Favorable C/R JUD

JUD Joint Favorable